

ASSESSMENT OF RISK IDENTIFICATION TECHNIQUES PRACTICED IN BANKING SECTOR: COMPARATIVE STUDY BETWEEN STATE AND PRIVATE COMMERCIAL BANKS IN ETHIOPIA

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ABSTRACT

In every organization, the task of risk identification is the pre-requisite of other stages of risk management; otherwise, absence of risk identification can be a source of error occurrences in all the steps that can also lead to non-achievement of objectives. The study-assessed risk recognition techniques practiced by Ethiopian commercial banks and data collected through cross-sectional design using structural questionnaire and interview, purposively from 204 risk management experts of all 17 commercial banks was analysed by descriptive and independent t-test, which revealed that there was insufficient common awareness on adverse outcome and its management in banking sectors in Ethiopia, the extent of understanding risk and exercise of risk identification was significantly different between state and private commercial banks. The significant difference of using interview method, document review/financial statement analysis and checklist techniques noted between State and Private Banking sectors in Ethiopia as techniques of risk identification

KEYWORDS: Risk, Risk Identification, Comparative Study & Commercial Banks

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1. INTRODUCTION

Making it certain that banks run in a protected and essential way, Ethiopian National Bank has officially recognized concerned body as supervisor. However, this purpose can be mainly accomplished if finance institutions successfully manage their risks. Risk management is a discipline at the central part of every financial institution and covers all the actions that influence its risk profile. This assumption, in general, however, does not mean risk minimization; but the target of adverse outcome management is to optimize risk-return trade-off. So, it is possible to attain designing a good situation or an effective risk management structure throughout to sufficiently capture and manage all risks that banks are exposed to (NBE, 2017).

In the task of running banking service, risk management requires four necessary stages that must be considered. These include: (1) Risk discovery, this means that to manage risks, a financial institution must identify current hazard or risks that may occur from accessibility and new business arrangement, like inherent problems in finance activity, which include credit default, liquidity, market and operational risks. Risk classification should be an ongoing process and is supposed to occur at transaction and portfolio level. (2) Risk evaluation - After risk has been identified, it should be calculated in order to determine their shock value on the financial institutions

prosperity and funds or its severity and probability. This can be through different techniques ranging from easy ways to complicated tools. Risk management structure needs to be precise and well-timed measurement. A financial institution which did not use definite risk analysis procedures has inadequate facility to control or monitor risk levels. A bank ought to regularly update itself whether its techniques of risk measurement is viable and reliable, which enables it to see risk profile level of the bank or assess the risks of each business line and portfolios. (3) The third stage includes **“Risk Control”**, after measuring risk, a financial institution should begin and communicate risk limits through policies, standards and procedures that define duty and influence. It may also apply different mitigating tools in reducing exposure to a range of risks. financial institutions should have a system to approve unusual or alter risk limits when necessary. (4) Finally, risk supervision/monitoring - a financial organization ought to put in position helpful management information system to check problem levels and facilitate regular review of risk level and exceptions and keep an eye on usual reports, which should be, timely, truthful and enlightening and supposed to be delegated to proper person, so that there is certain and desirable action, (Greuning & Bratanovic, 2009)

Bank exposure to risk in wide-ranging, can be grouped in to monetary, risk associated with operation and ecological risks. Systemic/financial risks basically include several kinds of problems of risk, balance on the bank book and income statement structure, credit and solvency risks are included in traditional banking risks and have has resulted in loss for a bank if they are not appropriately handled. Risks from operation of the banks are related to a bank’s activities, in general, in selling practice and the possible force thereon of compliance with bank systems, including policies and procedures, internal systems and technology, information security, measures against misconduct and hoax and trade stability concerns and ecological risks are related with a bank’s business situation, such as macroeconomic and policy concern, legal and regulatory factors, and in general financial sector facility and imbursement method of the regulation in which it runs (ibid.).

Establishing appropriate setup of outline is an essential way of risk appraisal for separating and documenting the probable and impact level of risk and other significant information on each loss events. Time detecting and addressing this shortage can considerably reduce the potential frequency and/or severity of a loss event. The mechanism necessarily keeps its standard level and uniformity across the bank’s level for classification, recording data for numerical analysis, qualification, control and measurement, analyzing and managing operational risk based on specified requirements by the management (Dima, June 2009).

Banks’ review team and the inside assessor required as an additional room for the bank governance’s uncertainty management policy function. Inside examiner conventionally carried out autonomous review of a bank’s fulfillment with its inner management structure, recording, actions as well as necessary information systems, but a large number of recent in-house assessors could express their tasks and guarantee about the bank’s business supremacy, organizing technique and threat to supervision development. Unless understanding and analysis of the main risk pointer driving the individual processes making up each business line, it cannot be realized in real World Bank practice.

Even though review teams engage in the precious task of supporting organization in determining and resolving risk areas, the most important duty for adverse outcome handling cannot be given to this group and to a certain extent should be incorporated into all positions of administration. By evaluating the risk-based financial related issues, outdoor inspectors have come in to play a vital role in the process management. Because of bank’s superintendents, one can neither do nor ought to repeat the task by an outside examiner; appropriate cooperation methods are very significant between these

two parties, mostly on a trilateral basis that includes bank management, which not only stands on a conventional balance book recorded and income summary review but also the appraisal ways should be risk oriented (Greuning and Bratanovic, 2009).

Recognition of unknown threats and analysis of money laundering/financial threats that are present within the bank, and the intended effective execution of policies and procedures that are proportionate with the identified risks are an important requirement for uncertainty management (BCBS, 2014). The novel prototype of menace administration start from the hazard identification process; otherwise, if the right source of risk is not being recognized, and the basic cause of these risks are not well understood, the action plans made would be restricted in worth. The task of improving comprehensiveness, wide organizational commitment and increasing the focus on thoughtful, forward-looking assessment of underlying risk drivers are very critical to advance risk identification capability and good risk supervision procedure (Wyman, 2015).

Determining the banking threats make a significant contribution to the achievement of controlling adverse outcome, and inability to detect banking threats can lead to errors in all stages of managing risk, resulting in ineffectiveness of organizational goal. Moreover, system that facilitates the course of action for recognition and need to be incorporated depend on the kind of firms (Rostami, 2016). Risks could lead to the downfall of most business if not well predicted. especially in business deals with day-to-day handling of risks.

In support of these several studies, (Kokobe and Gemechu, 2016) argued that risk management involves several procedures like discovering and examining risks, developing and applying risk handling system and supervision of the progress to pass up and/or reduce the severity of risk on the economic success of the firm, hence through proactive approach, banks need to be conscious to the risks of new banking service presented, then once understood, must be mitigated.

If auditors are unable to detect a misstatement particularly on the deception risk, it may expose them to lawsuit and affect their public reputation, so they should follow a scientific procedure to understand the possible misstatement. (Mohd-Nassir *et al.*, 2016) In any organization, the means of risk management consider several stages, such as: risk recognition, risk quantifying and treatment. So, while credit institutions are undertaken, risk management entails the application of particular procedures and methods for all stages of management and a well-organized risk management helps to protect crisis, improve output, reputation protection and enlarged stock value (Robert, *et al.*, April 2015).

The study made by Rosman, 2009 determined four important processes of managing hazards of the bank, such as perceptive risk and risk management; risk discovery; risk examination and measurement and risk check, and concluded a positive relationship between the aspects of risk management procedure and risk management performance. Banks should have systematic collection of complete, regular and reliable data important for managing risk and condition of sufficient data mechanism compartment and treatment capacity. Information is supposed to envelop all serviceable and core businesses, similarly other areas like macroeconomics and market movement that may be significant to risk management. Development of numerical modeling methods to allow the imitation and analysis of the effects of altering economic, business and market environments on a bank's risk profile and their shock on the bank's liquidity, profitability and net worth (Greuning and Bratanovic, 2009).

The result of reviewed literature on challenges in implementing risk management in Rome (Adina and Carmen, 2017) was establishing an uncertainty task and an organization background (enlightening capacity for openness), determining a proper ERM model, not implementing a KISS (Keep It Simple, Silly) rule, technical challenges related to risk executive process (lack of quality statistics or limited access to facts, lack of a correct procedure or combination of techniques for risk detection and analysis), not recognizing ERM as a change management, lack of risk knowledge and risk consciousness at board levels and lower levels, not linking risk to overall corporate strategy and complex environmental challenges.

Study conducted by Pasha and Tolesa, 2014 identified more suitable situations that help understand risks in private banks than government banks, but for both the policy bank supervision is similar, which was formulated by Ethiopian National Bank. It also concluded that nongovernmental banking sectors have more learned and experienced staff than those owned by the government. Overseeing risk is one of the basic tasks to be done once it has been identified and known. There is a direct relationship between risk and profits, a rise in one will then rise the other and vice versa (Shafiq and Nasr, July 2010). To effectively identify the risks, bank must advance its methods, frequently repeat the process and update their view of risks as the institution's risk profile and market conditions evolve (Wyman, 2015).

Because of the risk in financial institutions is wide in its nature, there are no common or decided risk management techniques that work for each one. Risk management plan must be incorporated by every financial organization that meets its requirements and situation, or it is desirable that one should observe the preferable risk management regardless of its strategy selected, and each plan should cover: Risk Identification, Risk Assessment/Evaluation and Risk Mitigation (Central Bank of Nigeria, 2014).

While undertaking certain business, it may involve uncertainty that has positive or negative consequence on its outcome. Therefore, proactive (not reactive) measures of risk management actions become mandatory to sustain in the business. However, though NBE takes the initiative to establish a risk management program in all banks working in the economy by giving more emphasis on Credit, Market, Liquidity and Operational risks, most banks either do not undertake the program at all or fail to do so on a full-fledged basis (Director, CBSD, 2014).

The procedures of uncertainty management in any organization covers, recognize risks, review risks numerically or qualitatively, decide the proper means for handling risks and then administrate risks (Tadayon *et al.*, 2012). They identify the brain-storming sessions, as they are highly practiced tools to identify hazards of the organization in Iran. Study by Mohd-Nassir *et al.*, 2016 investigated that brainstorming and auditors' expertise influence the success of the government auditors on deception risk evaluation, give you an idea about a significant relation between brainstorm and auditors' expertise on the government auditors on deception risk review. Similarly, study indicated the approach on the importance of bright idea for government inspector with different know-how.

The study by Renault *et al.*, (October 2016) revealed that checklist was the most frequently practiced and followed by flowchart. Nevertheless, it is remarkable to observe the absence of Delphi technique, brainstorming, interview/expert opinion and questionnaire among the techniques most commonly used since literature also mentions these as the most common, although the first three had a score greater than the average. Study in Tunisia (Selma *et al.*, 2013) found that managers are aware of the value and the contribution of useful risk management in dropping costs and improving bank efficiency, hence they have implemented some effective risk strategies and frameworks (infrastructure, process and policies).

The study made in Pakistan on Islamic and conventional banks' risk management practices Rehman *et al.*, 2017 point out that the average score replied to the thoughtful risk and risk control was higher for conventional banks than for Islamic banks. However, total mean did not explain any important distinction in the reaction of Islamic and conventional banks. The risk administration line of responsibility was better understood by conventional banks' staff compared to those of Islamic banks. Similarly, on risk discovery, the total average score of conventional banks recorded was higher than the one recorded for Islamic banks. Greatest average score in case of Islamic banks was given to a permanent process of risk classification in the bank at transactional and portfolio level, while conventional banks had their highest average for comprehensive and systematic identification of its danger similar to the bank's general aims. The lowest response was given to the difficulty of identifying and prioritizing risk in which Islamic banks had a mean worth less than conventional banks.

According to Asfaw and Veni, 2015 three types of risk identification methods (financial statement analysis, audit and physical inspection and internal communication) was identified as the most important and widely used method in Ethiopian commercial banks and also they investigated that credit risk was the critical and typically faced risk, which is followed by liquidity and operational risk in Ethiopian commercial banks. Despite the lengthy merits of menace supervision, it is not a security that a company will not suffer any collapse by executing the practices. Therefore, regardless of the risk management theory, the wrongly realized risk management practices would become a fake security net to organizations (Hudin and Hamid, September 2014).

In Ethiopia, from 1974-1991, there was the fragile and incompetent government-dominated banking service, which was more of an obstacle to the economic growth of the country. From 1991 onward, the present government has employed a number of restructures; in 1994, the government's legitimate local private investment in the banking industry. The financial sectors/institutions working in Ethiopia were banks, insurances and microfinance institutions. There were 18 banks, of which 16 are private and 2 are state-owned banks. Total number of branches of the banks rose to 4757 in 2017/18 from 4257 in the past year and made bank branch-to-population ratio 1:20,286.5⁵ people in 2017/18. Out of the total branches available, 35.3% were found in the capital city. The percentage of private banks in total branch network rose to 68.8% from 66.6% last year, suggestive of the stable growth in private banks' branches. In the banking sector, total capital growth was 10% and arrived at Birr 85.8 billion, June 2018 (National Bank of Ethiopia, Annual Report, 2017/18 Year).

So, to what extent the bank supervision policy in Ethiopia was impartially implemented in state bank and private banks, especially assessing the types of risks that occurred in Ethiopian commercial banks; the similarity and disparity of thoughtful risk management and identifying risk effectively is the target of this paper.

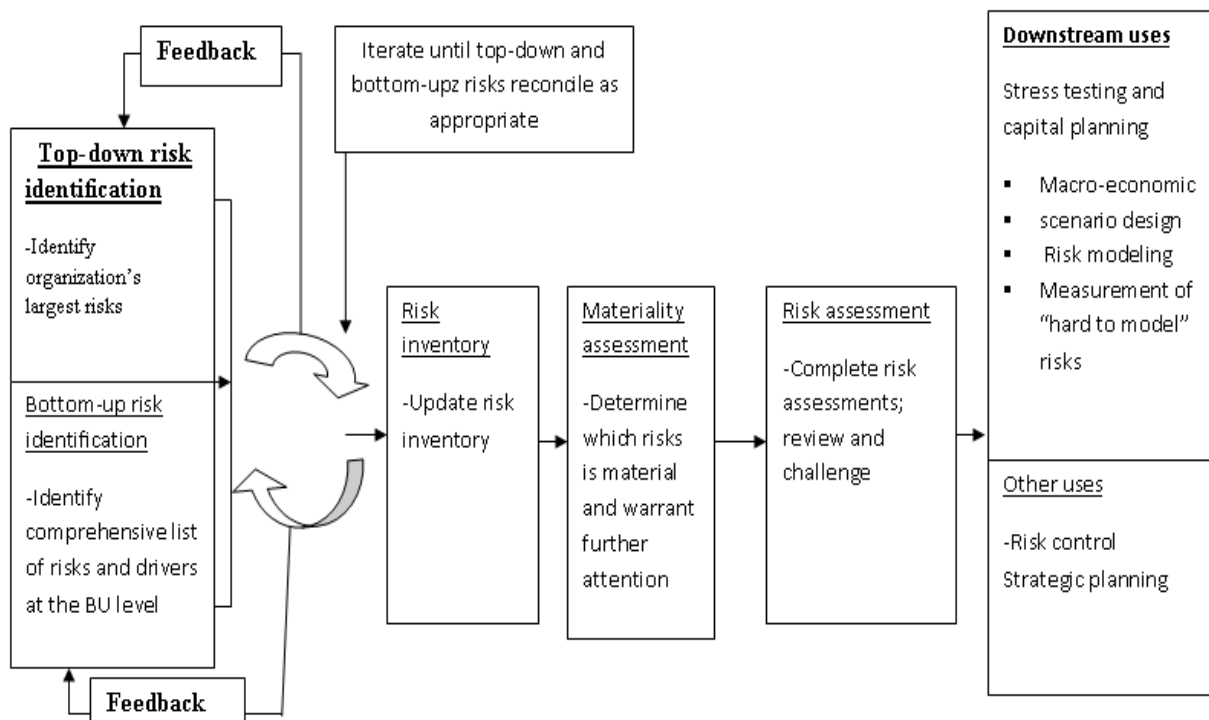


Figure 1: Risk Identification Processes and Downstream Uses.
Source: Modified from (Wyman, 2015)

Risk Identification Methods; depended on organizational situation and various instruments were incorporated to identify from where risks emanated and the risks that would, unfortunately, occur in the organization due to several factors. These instruments (PMI, 2013), cited in (Renault, Agumba and Ansary, October 2016) include: Brainstorming, interview/specialist opinion, questionnaires, Delphi technique, specialist system, past knowledge, checklist, documentary review, SWOT (Strengths-Weaknesses-Opportunities-Threats), Cause-and-Effect Diagrams, Flowchart and Influence Diagram.

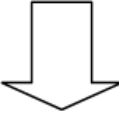
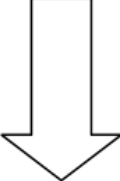
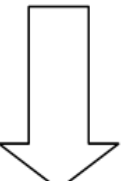
| Collection Methods | Search Methods | |
|---|---|---|
| Checklist SWOT-Analysis Interview, Document review  | Analytical Instruments | Creativity Tools |
| | Questionnaire | Brainstorming, Delphi Technique |
| |  |  |
| Retrospective Risk Identification | | |
| | Prospective Risk Identification | |

Figure 2: Risk Identification Methods

Source: (Baumann, Erber and Gattringer, 2016)

2. METHODOLOGY

2.1. Study Design

Cross-section study design was conducted through quantitative and qualitative approaches in which data were collected from the state and private commercial banks in Ethiopia, and analysis was done using mean and standard deviation, T-test and Pearson correlation was used to describe the characteristic of events undertaken in the study. For the data that was collected using unstructured questionnaire, interview was analyzed using qualitative method.

2.2. Data Sources

First-hand data was collected from managers and risk management specialists using structured interviews, while the secondary sources of data was collected from several written documents such as book, reports of the banks, observed study, correlated research documents, internet and other written and unpublished papers.

2.3. Sample

Governmental and private commercial banks registered in Ethiopia were the population of this study. First-hand data were collected using structural survey and dialogue techniques from head quarters of each 17 banks in Addis Ababa. These first-hand data were collected from each bank's managers, vice managers, risk management directors, internal examiner and accountants; in total for 210 respondents, questionnaires were distributed but only 204 were returned.

2.4. Sampling Techniques

Headquarters of all commercial banks were considered and managers, vice managers, risk management directorates, auditors and accountants were taken purposively.

2.5. Method of Data Analysis

After the data was gathered through questionnaires and interview, it was analyzed and presented through table and graphs; both quantitative and qualitative methods of data analysis were also taken. The mean comparisons between state and private banks in risk identification techniques were tested using t-test techniques and mean and standard deviations were taken for descriptive analysis.

Hypothesis:

- Ho: There is no significant difference of understanding risk between State and Private Ethiopian Commercial Banks.
- HO: There is no significance difference in risk identification between State and Private Ethiopian Commercial Banks.
- HO: There is no significance difference of risk identification tools practiced between State and Private Ethiopian Commercial Banks.

3. RESULT

3.1. Understanding Risk

Managers, vice managers, risk management directorates and internal audit experts in both state and private owned banks were requested to rate how risk is understood throughout in their banks; extent of risk identification activities and tools practiced for identifying risk. The result from 204 respondents revealed that there was clear responsibility, (mean = 3.79,

std. = 962) which was similarly found by Rehman *et al.*, 2017 and accountability (mean = 3.75, std. = 936) within the banks, which assist them to understand risk and risk management throughout the bank, but the system to implement risk management indicated less likely agreement with it. Overall, the potency of understanding risk and risk management (mean = 3.6900, STD. = 0.71689) indicated that the approximates agree that to some extent, there is awareness toward risk and risk management throughout commercial banks in Ethiopia, but these results are not satisfactory when compared with previous study result (Rosman, 2009).

Table 1: Understanding Risk

| Items | N | Mean | Std. D |
|--|-----|--------|--------|
| There is an universal understanding of risk management across the bank | 204 | 3.66 | 1.078 |
| There is appropriate system for understanding various risks implemented in the bank | 204 | 3.56 | 1.003 |
| Responsibility for risk management is clearly set out and understood throughout the bank | 204 | 3.79 | .962 |
| Accountability for risk management is clearly set out and understood throughout the bank | 204 | 3.75 | .936 |
| Total score of understanding risk and Risk Management | 204 | 3.6900 | .71689 |

3.2. Risk Identification Practices

Although rarely practice of sophisticated techniques for risk identification, and compressive and systematic identification of risk is observed, total score (mean = 3.8444, STD = 0.70426) showed inadequate practices were done to identify the obvious and hidden risk in Ethiopian commercial banks.

Result on table 2 also indicated that in one way or another, banks' roles and responsibilities were well thought-out, hence the task of risk identification was taken by the banks in which the majorities almost agreed with its practices effectively and efficiently to prevent the potential exposures of banks to risks.

In general, activities for risk management, identifying the risk as action plan before analysis and handling through appropriate treatment tools revealed less likely performance, such as application of the most sophisticated techniques, development of systematic procedures of risk identification

Table 2: Descriptive Statistics of Risk Identification Practice

| Items | N | Mean | Std. D |
|--|-----|--------|--------|
| The bank carries out a compressive and systematic identification of its risks relating to each of its declared aims and objectives | 204 | 4.00 | 1.132 |
| The bank finds it difficult to prioritize its main risks | 204 | 3.94 | .991 |
| Changes in risks are recognized and identified with the bank's roles and responsibilities | 204 | 3.95 | .951 |
| The bank is aware of the strengths of the risk management systems of other banks | 204 | 3.84 | 1.053 |
| The bank is aware of the weaknesses of the risk management systems of other banks | 204 | 3.88 | .950 |
| The bank has developed procedures for the systematic identification of opportunities | 204 | 3.73 | 1.083 |
| The bank has applied procedures for the systematic identification of opportunities | 204 | 3.82 | 1.059 |
| The bank is applying the most sophisticated techniques for risk identification | 204 | 3.58 | 1.001 |
| Total score of Risk Identification | 204 | 3.8444 | .70426 |

There is significant difference of understanding risk and risk management ($t = -2.313$, $p = 0.022$) between state banks and private banks in Ethiopian Commercial Banks, but contradicted with the result made in Pakistan by Rehman *et al.*, 2017) and similarly significant difference in practice of risk identification ($t = -2.853$, $p = 0.005$) was identified.

Table 3: Independent Samples Test: Understanding Risk Management and Risk Identification between state bank and private banks in Ethiopia

| Items | t-test for Equality of Means | | | | |
|--|------------------------------|-----|-----------------|---------|-------|
| | t | df | Sig. (2-tailed) | 95% CI | |
| | | | | Lower | Upper |
| Understanding Risk and Risk Management | -2.313 | 202 | .022 | -.46262 | -.037 |
| Risk Identification Practice | -2.853 | 202 | .005 | -.50842 | -.093 |

3.3. Risk Identification Techniques

SWOT analysis (mean = 3.81, STD = 1.099) was highly practiced in state banks. However, private banks practice more interview method (mean = 3.80, STD = 1.012), document review/financial statement analysis (mean = 3.90, STD = 0.933) and checklist (mean = 3.85, STD = .902). Scenario analysis (mean = 3.58, STD = 0.933) and brainstorming (mean = 3.52, STD = 1.211) were less likely practices in state banks. This result is in line with (Renault, Agumba, and Ansary, October 2016) that checklist; brainstorming and document reviews are very important tools of risk identification but contradicting it, SWOT analysis is practiced by state banks in Ethiopia

Table 4: Descriptive Statistics of Risk Identification Techniques Used by State and Private Banks in Ethiopia

| Bank Type | | N | Mean | Std. Deviation | Std. Error Mean |
|-----------------------------------|---------------|-----|------|----------------|-----------------|
| Interview | State banks | 62 | 3.39 | 1.107 | .141 |
| | Private banks | 142 | 3.80 | 1.012 | .085 |
| Document Review | State banks | 62 | 3.65 | 1.103 | .140 |
| | Private banks | 142 | 3.90 | .933 | .078 |
| Risk Survey research | State banks | 62 | 3.45 | 1.097 | .139 |
| | Private banks | 142 | 3.55 | 1.056 | .089 |
| Internal Communication or Reports | State banks | 62 | 3.66 | 1.086 | .138 |
| | Private banks | 142 | 3.78 | 1.011 | .085 |
| checklist | State banks | 62 | 3.52 | 1.156 | .147 |
| | Private banks | 142 | 3.85 | .902 | .076 |
| SWOT Analysis | State banks | 62 | 3.81 | 1.099 | .140 |
| | Private banks | 142 | 3.73 | 1.038 | .087 |
| Brain storming | State banks | 62 | 3.52 | 1.211 | .154 |
| | Private banks | 142 | 3.76 | 1.031 | .087 |
| Scenario Analysis | State banks | 62 | 3.58 | .933 | .118 |
| | Private banks | 142 | 3.74 | 1.015 | .085 |

For the purpose of identifying risk, there is a significant difference in using interview method ($t = 2.622$, $p = .009$), checklist method ($t = -2.193$, $p = .029$) and document review/financial statement analysis techniques ($t = -1.705$, $p = .040$) between state and private banks in Ethiopian commercial banks; however, there is no significant difference in using risk survey research techniques, internal communication or reporting, SWOT analysis, brainstorming and scenario analysis techniques to identify the risk in state and private commercial banks in Ethiopia.

Table 5: Independent Sample t-test of Risk Identification Techniques between State and Private Banks in Ethiopia

| Risk Identification Techniques | t-Test for Equality of Means | | | | |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------------|-----|-----------------|---------------------------|-------|
| | t | df | Sig. (2-TAILED) | 95% C I of the Difference | |
| | | | | Lower | Upper |
| Interview | -2.622 | 202 | .009 | -.728 | -.103 |
| Document Review | -1.705 | 202 | .040 | -.553 | .040 |
| Risk Survey research | -.601 | 202 | .549 | -.418 | .223 |
| Internal Communication or Reports | -.765 | 202 | .445 | -.431 | .190 |
| Checklist | -2.193 | 202 | .029 | -.625 | -.033 |
| SWOT Analysis | .460 | 202 | .646 | -.243 | .391 |
| Brainstorming | -1.475 | 202 | .142 | -.571 | .082 |
| Scenario Analysis | -1.052 | 202 | .294 | -.456 | .139 |

3.4. Type of Risks

Data collected through interviews and questionnaires from respondents also showed several risks that have been noted in Ethiopian commercial banks. The most dominant from high frequency of occurrence to low frequency to occur are credit risk, operational risk, country or political risk, liquidity risk, market risk, strategic risk and regulatory risk.

Table 6: Types of Risks Identified in Ethiopian Commercial Banks

| Types of Risks | Number of respondents gave Order | | | | | |
|--------------------------|----------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-------|
| | Rank Order of Risk | | | | | TOTAL |
| | 1st | 2nd | 3rd | 4th | 5th | |
| Country (Political) Risk | 29 | 16 | 8 | 22 | 25 | 100 |
| Credit Risk | 100 | 40 | 22 | 15 | 18 | 195 |
| Legal Risk | 2 | 14 | 12 | 16 | 42 | 86 |
| Liquidity Risk | 20 | 41 | 44 | 54 | 18 | 177 |
| Market Risk | 7 | 27 | 60 | 35 | 22 | 151 |
| Operational Risk | 38 | 59 | 35 | 32 | 16 | 180 |
| Regulatory Risk | 4 | 3 | 10 | 12 | 22 | 51 |
| Strategic Risk | 4 | 4 | 13 | 18 | 41 | 80 |

4. CONCLUSIONS

Every organization has a general banking sector in particular and the need to perform risk identification as a pre-requisite of other stages of risk management; otherwise, absence of risk identification can be a source for the occurrence of errors in all the steps that can also lead to non-achievement of objectives. Understanding risk and risk management is a vital requirement for success of the bank (Rosman, 2009, Selma, Abdelghani, & Rajhi, 2013); however, it is not satisfactorily, commonly understood and implemented which in line was found by Asfaw and Veni, 2015) in Ethiopian commercial banks. Since risk identification is a foundation stone (Wyman, 2015,) in risk management stage and needs improvement, especially government owned banks showed insufficient result on risk identification practice.

The result from interview indicated that credit and operational risks were the most dominant risks in banking sector; however, due to political and economic instability, there were also liquidity, market and political risks recorded within top five ranks of risks of banking in Ethiopia. Certain Risk identification techniques, (Renault, Agumba and Ansary, October 2016) such as interviewing, document review/financial statement analysis and checklist techniques are significantly practiced in private banks, but SWOT analysis, brainstorming, scenario analysis and **Risk Survey** research techniques are insignificant difference.

The common awareness on adverse outcome and its management in banking sectors has been insufficient; as a result, risk identification as a separate task is less likely practiced. The potency of understanding risk and the practices of risk identification level is significantly different, between state banks and private Ethiopian commercial banks.

The significant difference of Risk identification using Interviewing method, document review/financial statement analysis and checklist techniques are noted between state banks and private banks in Ethiopian Commercial bank.

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Mr. LEMAA BELAY ZELEKE has more than four Publications on international Journals in the areas of Business Management and Finance. He taught several courses at university level Such as Statistics for management I and II, Mathematics for Management, Introduction to Management, Risk Management and Insurance, Operational Management and Operational Research, Project Management, Strategic Management, Research Methods, Financial Markets and Institutions, Entrepreneurship and Small Business Management and others Management Courses. He is a young man of salient qualities, in all his activities, he is a good performing hard working and industrious person. Above and beyond, he has typically positive behavior and vigorous in extracurricular activities



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